

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS  
OF THE STATE OF IOWA**

RECEIVED  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS

DEC 09 2020

In the matter of:	)	BOEE Case No. 20-79 <sup>73</sup>
	)	Folder # 985224
Matthew Jaschen,	)	
	)	<b>SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND</b>
Respondent.	)	<b>FINAL ORDER</b>
	)	

In accordance with the provisions of Iowa Code sections 17A.12(5) and 272.2(4) and 282 Iowa Administrative Code rule 11.4(6), and with full knowledge of the right to demand a formal hearing before the Board upon the pending complaint prior to the imposition of sanction upon his license(s), the Respondent expressly waives the right to a disciplinary hearing and notifies the Board of his desire to resolve the pending complaint through means of informal disposition.

The Respondent concedes the jurisdiction of the Board for all issues relevant hereto and voluntarily consents to the State's counsel presenting this agreement to the Board with the terms provided. If the Board does not accept the terms of this agreement, the disciplinary hearing will be rescheduled and the stipulations contained herein are not binding upon the Respondent and will not be presented against him at the time of hearing without further agreement of the Respondent.

Board approval of this settlement shall constitute resolution of this matter and will be entered as a FINAL ORDER of the Board.

**STIPULATIONS**

1. Respondent holds a Standard LICENSE (FOLDER # 985224) with the following endorsements: 5-12 Biological Science; 5-12 Chemistry; K-12 Athletic Coach. This license is current and will next expire on 12/31/2021.

2. During all material events of this case, Respondent was employed as a teacher and coach with the Johnston School District.

3. On June 5, 2020, the Board of Educational Examiners received a complaint against Respondent alleging various violations.

4. On September 11, 2020, the Board found probable cause to proceed to hearing based upon the facts set forth herein and delineated in further detail within the complaint and investigation file compiled by the Board.

5. Investigation revealed that on or about May 7, 2020 the Respondent, while acting in his official capacity as a licensee, without permission, knowingly held an unauthorized event with students at the Johnston High School stadium. The venue was

closed due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the school and facility being closed, the Respondent held this event with students. While students were running, the Respondent did not require the students to maintain social distancing or wear protective equipment.

### **SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

6. This Settlement Agreement and Final Order constitutes the final resolution of a contested case proceeding and shall have the force and effect of a disciplinary order entered following a contested case hearing.

7. In order to resolve this matter without proceeding to hearing, Respondent agrees to the following conditions:

- a. Respondent stipulates to Count II, and the State agrees to dismiss Count I.
- b. Respondent accepts a WRITTEN REPRIMAND.
- c. Respondent agrees to successfully complete at least fifteen in-person contact hours in "Ethics for Educators," which is offered by the ISEA, or "Ethical Educators," which is offered by the PEI. Respondent is responsible for all costs associated with the completion of the educational course. Respondent shall provide the Board with proof of completion of the ethics course within ONE YEAR of the Board's acceptance of this Settlement Agreement and Final Order. Failure to complete the ethical class within the allotted time period will result in immediate suspension of your license until completed. The Board agrees that such hours may be satisfied through the on-line course offered by ISEA or PEI due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

## LICENSEE DECLARATION

I understand that this Settlement Agreement and Final Order is subject to the approval of the Board and will have no force or effect if it is not accepted by the Board.

I understand that I have the right to be represented by counsel in this matter.

I understand State's counsel will present this Settlement Agreement and Final Order to the Board *ex parte*.

I agree to comply with the requirements set forth in the stipulations and requirements of this Settlement Agreement and Final Order and understand that my failure to do so can result in additional discipline of my license(s).

I understand I have an opportunity to be heard and to contest the allegations against me in a formal hearing before the Board and that by waiving the formal hearing, I waive my right to challenge the allegations against me and all attendant rights, including the right to appeal or seek judicial review of the Board's actions.

I understand that this Settlement Agreement and Final Order is a public record, which will become part of my permanent licensure file and will be available for public inspection and reproduction.

I understand that my name will be added to the national clearinghouse database kept by the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC).

12/7/20

Date



Matthew Jaschen, Respondent

## ORDER

IT IS THE FINAL ORDER OF THE IOWA BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS THAT:

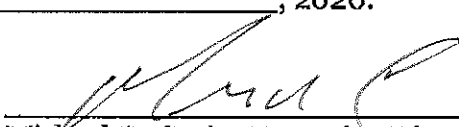
1. The conduct with which Respondent has been charged in Count II constitutes a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics governing the teaching profession. Respondent is REPRIMANDED for the charged conduct.

2. Count I of the Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges is hereby formally dismissed.

3. Respondent shall successfully complete at least fifteen in-person contact hours in "Ethics for Educators" or "Ethical Educators." Respondent is responsible for all costs associated with the completion of the educational course. Respondent shall provide the Board with proof of completion of the ethics course within ONE YEAR of the Board's acceptance of this Settlement Agreement and Final Order. Such hours may be satisfied through the on-line course offered by ISEA or PEI due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

4. In determining the appropriate sanction to impose in this case, the Board has considered the nature and seriousness of the allegations as well as mitigating circumstances.

Dated this 11th day of December, 2020.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael D. Cavin, Executive Director  
Iowa Board of Educational Examiners

Copies to:

Matthew Jaschen  
RESPONDENT

Rebecca Brommel  
ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT

Jesse Ramirez  
ATTORNEY FOR THE STATE

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS  
OF THE STATE OF IOWA**

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In the matter of	)	Case No. 20-73
	)	Folder No. 985224
<b>Matthew N. Jaschen,</b>	)	
	)	<b>NOTICE OF HEARING</b>
Respondent.	)	<b>AND STATEMENT OF CHARGES</b>

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**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** that the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners, exercising the jurisdiction conferred by Iowa Code chapters 17A and 272, has found probable cause of a violation of Board rules and ordered this matter scheduled for hearing.

**A. TIME, PLACE AND NATURE OF HEARING**

1. Hearing will be held on Friday, January 22, 2021, before Administrative Law Judge Tricia Johnston, acting on behalf of the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners. The hearing shall begin at 9:00 a.m. at the Department of Inspections and Appeals, Wallace State Office Bldg., Conference Room 3E&W, Third Floor (in order to enable sufficient social distancing), 502 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street (East 9<sup>th</sup> and Grand Avenue), Des Moines, Iowa. Please enter the Wallace Building at the main entrance on the east side. Public parking is available in the parking ramp on the west side of the Wallace Building. If the building is locked upon your arrival, please wait and someone will let you in momentarily. You may also call (515) 281-6468 upon arrival. This location is subject to change prior to the hearing. You will be notified should there be a change in location. Included with this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges is a copy of the Administrative Hearings Division In-Person Hearing Pandemic Protocol that will be in place at the time of the hearing.

2. Answer. Within twenty (20) days of the date of service of this Notice of Hearing, you are required to file an Answer specifically admitting, denying, or otherwise responding to the allegations included within the Factual Allegations. In that Answer, you should also state whether you will require an adjustment of the date and time of the hearing. A copy of the Answer shall be provided by the Respondent to the Assistant Attorney General identified below.

3. Hearing Procedures. The procedural rules governing the conduct of the hearing are found at 282 Iowa Administrative Code chapter 11. At hearing, you may appear personally or be represented by an attorney, at your own expense. You will be allowed the opportunity to respond to the charges against you. Each party will be allowed to testify, examine and cross-examine witnesses, and present documentary evidence. If you fail to appear at the hearing, the Board may enter a default decision or proceed with the hearing and render a decision in your absence. If you need to request an alternative time or date for hearing, you must comply with the requirements of 282 Iowa Administrative Code rule 11.19.

This hearing may be held telephonically or by some other electronic means with consent of all the parties. If either party wishes to present telephonic testimony or to participate in the hearing by telephone (or other electronic means), arrangements must be

made at least ten (10) days in advance of the hearing date by filing a written request with the presiding Administrative Law Judge, Department of Inspections and Appeals, Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319, or by faxing a written request to (515) 281-4477. A copy of the request for telephonic testimony must be served on the Board and all parties. Any resistance to the request for telephonic testimony must be filed within five (5) days of service of the notice.

4. Pre-hearing conference. Either party may request a pre-hearing conference to discuss evidentiary issues related to the hearing. The Board rules regarding pre-hearing conferences are found in 282 Iowa Administrative Code rule 11.18.

5. Prosecution. The office of the Attorney General is responsible for prosecuting and representing the public interest (the State) in this proceeding. Pleadings shall be filed with the Board and copies should be provided to counsel for the State at the following address:

Jesse Ramirez  
Assistant Attorney General  
Iowa Department of Justice  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Hoover State Office Building  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319  
Telephone (515) 281-3395

6. Communications. You may not contact Board members by phone, letter, facsimile, e-mail, or in person about this Notice of Hearing or the pending charges. Board members may only receive information about the case when all parties have notice and an opportunity to participate, such as at the hearing or in pleadings you file with the Board office and serve on all parties in the case. You should direct any questions about this proceeding to Michael D. Cavin, the Board's Interim Executive Director, at (515) 281-5849 or to Assistant Attorney General Ramirez at (515) 281-3395.

## **B. SECTIONS OF STATUTES AND RULES INVOLVED**

### **Count I**

7. Respondent is charged with falsifying or deliberately misrepresenting or omitting material information submitted in the course of an official inquiry or investigation, in violation of 282 Iowa Administrative Code rule 25.3(3)(c).

### **Count II**

8. Respondent is charged with Failing to make reasonable effort to protect the health and safety of the student or creating conditions harmful to student learning, in violation of 282 Iowa Administrative Code rule 25.3(6)(c).

## **C. JURISDICTION AND LEGAL AUTHORITY**

9. The Board has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to Iowa Code chapters 17A and 272. If any of the allegations against you are proven at hearing, the Board has authority to take disciplinary action against you under Iowa Code chapters 17A and 272, and 282 Iowa Administrative Code chapter 11.

#### **D. FACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

10. Respondent holds a Standard License (Folder # 985224) with the following endorsements: 5-12 Biological Science; 5-12 Chemistry; K-12 Athletic Coach. This license is current and will next expire on 12/31/2021.

11. During all material events of this case, Respondent was employed as a teacher and coach with the Johnston Community School District.

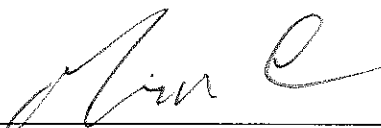
12. On June 5, 2020, the Board of Educational Examiners received a complaint against Respondent alleging various violations. On September 11, 2020, the Board found probable cause to proceed to hearing based upon the facts set forth herein and delineated in further detail within the complaint and investigation file compiled by the Board.

13. Investigation revealed that on or about May 7, 2020, the Respondent, while acting in his official capacity as a licensee without permission, knowingly held an unauthorized event with students at the Johnston High School stadium. The venue was closed due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the school and facility being closed, the Respondent held this event with students and when confronted with this fact by school administration during their investigation, the Respondent provided several misleading and dishonest statements. The Respondent did not properly ensure students were following proper social distancing guidelines nor wearing personal protective equipment.

#### **E. SETTLEMENT**

14. This matter may be resolved by surrender of your license or an agreement to accept a lesser sanction. The procedural rules governing the Board's settlement process are found at 282 Iowa Administrative Code rule 11.4(6). If you are interested in pursuing settlement of this matter, please contact the Assistant Attorney General identified in Section A, above.

Dated this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2020.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael D. Cavin, Interim Executive Director  
Iowa Board of Educational Examiners

Copies to:

Matthew N. Jaschen (first-class mail and certified mail)  
RESPONDENT

Rebecca Brommel (electronic mail)  
ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT

Jesse Ramirez (electronic mail)  
ATTORNEY FOR STATE